



ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

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27 January 2015

General Gordon R. Sullivan
United States Army (Ret.)
President

The Honorable John Boehner
United States House of Representatives
1011 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner:

On behalf of the members of the Association of the U.S. Army, I write to urge you to seek an immediate solution to the fiscal uncertainty wrought by sequestration. Sequestration is a draconian and inefficient way to solve America's budget problems. Cutting national security spending is unwise in a dangerous world. The global threat of international terrorism is not going away and the potential for cyber-attacks from hostile nations increases daily.

Sequestration weakens our nation and encourages our enemies. Ground, naval and air forces will shrink to their smallest levels in generations as national security threats increase. Research and development funding will dry up resulting in enormous loss of innovation and development of cutting edge technological advances in the defense arena. Potential benefit cuts will cause anxiety for military personnel and families.

Long term budget predictability and financial flexibility are essential for military leadership to responsibly structure, fund, and maintain our defense forces going forward. Sequestration hinders all of those requirements. To maintain national security, we must have military forces that are efficient, effective, and well-trained. They must be well-equipped, capable and responsive.

The way to have military forces with those qualities is to invest in America's defense, not to gut defense spending with a meat cutter called sequestration. I urge you to work together to find a better way to solve our budget woes. We must keep the American people safe, and sequestration is not the way to do so.

Sincerely,



GORDON R. SULLIVAN
General, USA Retired